



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

39 Central Texans complete dementia training certification program

State Veterans Home in Temple to strengthen its specialized Alzheimer's unit

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TEMPLE, Texas — Some reinforcements have arrived for the 1,300 Texans who care for those living with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

Thirty-nine graduates of the CARES dementia certification program will be honored at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21, in the Activity Room of the William R. Courtney Texas State Veterans Home, 1424 Martin Luther King, Jr. Lane, in Temple.

"The number of Central Texans living with dementia grows each day, and we're grateful to those stepping up to the plate to care for them," said Sue Nelson, On-Site Representative for the William R. Courtney Texas State Veterans Home and its overseeing agency, the Texas Veterans Land Board.

The Courtney State Veterans Home maintains a separate, state-of-the-art facility specifically for patients with Alzheimer's and other dementia – with room for up to 32 residents. The CARES Dementia Advanced Care education program trains staff to know exactly how to keep a resident from wandering away, or what to do when a resident falls or complains of recurring pain, among other topics.

The program is provided by HealthCare Interactive, a company which specializes in dementia, memory loss and Alzheimer's Disease education. CARES is an acronym for "Connect with the person, Assess behavior, Respond appropriately, Evaluate what works, and Share with others."

An estimated 340,000 Texans have Alzheimer's disease, and many more live with dementia from other causes. There are around 1,300 caregivers in Texas who specialize in caring for persons living with Alzheimer's and other dementia, according to the national Alzheimer's Association.

Attendance at the ceremony is by RSVP only. To attend call the William R. Courtney Texas State Veterans Home at (254)791-8280.

WHO: Graduates of the CARES dementia education program

WHEN: 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 21. (RSVP required)

WHERE: The Activity Room of the William R. Courtney Texas State Veterans Home,
1424 MLK Lane, in Temple.

WHY: To recognize those who care daily for those living with dementia

More information

The following Central Texans have become CARES certified and will be honored with a ceremony on Friday, Feb. 21, at the William R. Courtney State Veterans Home in Temple.

Gwen Bennett
Lauren Bennett
Jacqueline Borton
Deborah Briscoe
Brandy Bush
Donna Carruth
Margaret Castillo
Natalie Cilek
Dianna Crockett
Maria Dannged
Crystal Diggs
Shannon Franchuk
Paulette Freeman
Dominique Gant
Angela Garcia
Yolander Garrison
Kemberli Gordy
Catherine Hoyle
Norman Jackson
Patty Johnson
Denise Kimball
Katie Lamberte
Robert Medrano
Ellen Metz
Sharon Mohrmann
Sue Nelson
Lillie Rorie
Carolyn Rumfield
Trudy von Seeburg
Roger von Seeburg
Nancy Stafford
Donna Stephenson
Kristi Sweet
Regina Thrasher
Connie Wetzel
Loretta Whitfield
Elwood Wilkerson
Laterga Williams
Virginia Wood

